

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 853

By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the congregation of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Waverly upon the occasion of the church's 125th anniversary.

WHEREAS, the churches of our nation have been an integral part of our history as a people and have an unparalleled impact in forming and maintaining a stable and just society; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those venerable religious institutions and their congregations who, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; one such estimable institution is Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Waverly, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Reverend Bobby L. DeBerry and the congregation of Mt. Olive Baptist Church are celebrating the church's 125th anniversary this year; this esteemed congregation is the oldest African-American church in its area, and

WHEREAS, upon reaching this venerable milestone, the faithful members of Mt. Olive Baptist Church have found it fitting to reflect upon the past, give thanks for the present, and joyfully anticipate a future filled with spiritual enrichment; and

WHEREAS, over the last 125 years, Mt. Olive Baptist Church has seen many tremendous spiritual gains; the church's primary business has always been and will continue to be spreading the gospel and seeking salvation; and

WHEREAS, the church's members have long made prominent contributions to the civic, educational, and social fabric of Tennessee and the nation, as evidenced by the church's active programs of goodwill; and

WHEREAS, as a powerful tool in the service of the Kingdom of God, Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Waverly is truly one of the great religious institutions and catalysts for positive spiritual change in our State, and the members of this exceptional congregation should be appropriately honored for their exemplary service to their fellow Christians and to the good people of Waverly and Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join in celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Waverly, thank Reverend Bobby L. DeBerry and the good people of this historic congregation for their notable service to their Lord and the State of Tennessee, and wish them much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.